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# MEMBER CONNECTION

November 2009

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## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR BECKY SKILLMAN COMING NOVEMBER 6



Your Wabash County Chamber of Commerce is proud to host Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman as the keynote speaker for the 27<sup>th</sup> Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor Annual Meeting on Friday, November 6, at the Honeywell Center. The Lt. Governor will be joined by Project Engineer James Earl II, who will provide a construction update on the current Logansport to Lafayette section of the corridor.

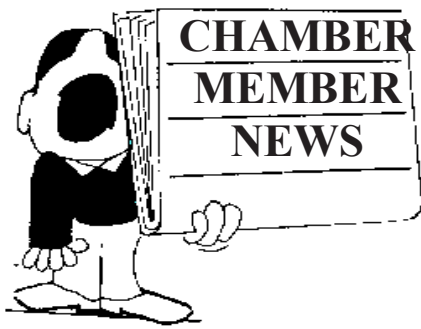
"The City of Wabash is looking forward to the Lieutenant Governor's visit and, more importantly, to the completion of the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor," said Wabash Mayor Robert Vanlandingham. "We take pride in the fact that our community kept the light burning on the importance of finishing this highway project. Our community knows firsthand how important completing the highway will be and is looking forward to Lt. Gov. Skillman's remarks."

According to Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski, "The Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor will connect the City of Lafayette to the regional and national economies of the upper Great Lakes. The establishment of a limited-access, four-lane highway linking the cities in the Wabash Valley with the rural communities they serve is essential to the region's future long-term economic growth. Several years ago, a few doubters said they did not believe the highway would ever be built, but today all one has to do is drive out from Lafayette toward Logansport to see all the construction that is underway."



Francis Jaquay of Miami County is this year's chairman of the Hoosier Heartland Industrial Corridor Highway Coalition. "It is the goal of this generation of HHIC leadership to leave a legacy of a safe and completed 4-lane highway for the future;" He added, "The highway will provide greater access to education, provide safer mobility throughout the region, and bring jobs to the communities along the Corridor, making it possible for future generations to stay within their communities."

As host agency, I encourage our members and all community leaders to make reservations for this important luncheon. Let's show our strength for this much needed transportation corridor which will allow us to build a strong supply chain for existing businesses as well as attracting new industries to the region. Simply log onto [www.wabashchamber.org](http://www.wabashchamber.org) reserve and pay online or telephone 260.563.1168. Cost for the luncheon is \$250 for a table of 8 or \$30 per person. Let's really come out and show our appreciation to the state for ensuring that the highway will be completed by 2013.



## HAVE A NEWSWORTHY ARTICLE OR EVENT YOU'D LIKE US TO PUBLISH?

Are you holding a special promotion, event or want to congratulate and recognize an employee? We are happy to share your news with the business community. The Chamber newsletter deadline for article submission is the 3rd Monday of the month prior to publication. Email your news and pictures to: [info@wabashchamber.org](mailto:info@wabashchamber.org) or fax news to 260.563.6920.

## PRESS RELEASES

Please feel free to add us to your Media list for all of your Press Release articles so that we too can announce your news. If you would like to submit your Press Release to us, we would be more than happy to send them out to the media for you.

Support the **Wabash County Hospital Foundation's** "Dancing with the Stars II" annual gala. This year's event will be held on Saturday, November 14, in the Honeywell Center and proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward a Cardiac Monitoring System and Portable X-ray Machine. Tickets may be obtained by calling the Foundation at 260.569.2254 or email [knewhouse@wchospital.com](mailto:knewhouse@wchospital.com). Call today and support this worthy cause!

**Ponderosa Restaurant** has announced that it will be open Thanksgiving Day from 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. They are located at 1319 N. Cass St. and may be reached by telephone at 260.563.4166.

Any company that serves food to the public has to have a food safety certification. **Ivy Tech Community College will be running a one-day food safety certification class** on Tuesday, December 15, from 8am to 6pm on the Wabash Ivy Tech campus. The cost is \$125. For more info, contact Brad Thurmond, at 260.563.8828.

**The Wabash County Council on Aging, Inc. welcomes Megan McKillip** to their team. Megan began as Program Director on September 14th. Megan graduated from Northfield High School and Indiana Tech. She has degrees in Recreational Therapy and Recreation Management. Megan has previously worked for Peabody Retirement Community and Caring Hands Health and Rehab. Contact Megan at 260.563.4475. The Dallas L. Winchester Senior Center is operated by the Wabash County Council on Aging, Inc., A Wabash County United Fund Agency.

Congratulations to **Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance** who just celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Having offices in each of Indiana's 92 counties, IFBI employs more than 1,700 Hoosiers. The company offers insurance products for auto, life, home, business and farm and is the largest writer of farm insurance and the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest writer of auto and home insurance in the state. For more information, telephone 260.563.8351.

**The Great Wall Restaurant** is located at 1439 N. Cass St. and wants to remind local clubs, churches, schools and organizations, that they have a separate dining room for your meetings and special dinners. Whether you are a group of four or 54, they will make a contribution to your organization for 15% of your total restaurant bill. Great Wall is open 7 days a week from 11 a.m. – 10 p.m. Telephone 260.563.7987 to reserve your spot now.

**ARC of Wabash County, Inc.** is hosting a Holiday Open House featuring their Next Steps Shirts and other handcrafted décor items on Friday, November 6, from 4 – 8 p.m. and on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Located at 595 S. Miami St, telephone 260.563.8411 for more information.

**Wabash Subway** is offering catering services for your next office party, meeting or other special event. Various sandwich platters (from small serving 7 – 10) up to six feet long or other special orders are available. Veggie and cookie trays are also an option along with chips, if desired. Call Teresa at 260.563.8274 to place your order.

**The following are upcoming events you won't want to miss!**

**Wabash County Historical Museum continues its Lincoln Series** when Mike Capps presents "Lincoln Boyhood Home National Memorial" on Nov 4, at 7 p.m., at the Honeywell Center.

Women's Clubhouse Luncheon & Program "**Quilts and Women of the Civil War**" at Noon on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

On November 12 at 7 p.m., the **Honeywell House will feature WWII Photographer Bill Jones**, sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Robert Beckett.

Honeywell Center upcoming events

<i>STOMP</i>	Wed., November 4	4:00 & 7:00 p.m.
WWKI welcomes <i>Aaron Barker</i>	Fri., November 6	7:30 p.m.
<i>Busselli-Wallarab Jazz Sextet</i>	Thurs., November 12	7:30 p.m.
WWKI welcomes <i>Steve Seskin</i> sponsored by Duke Energy	Fri., November 20	7:30 p.m.
<i>A Sandi Patty Christmas</i>	Sun., November 29	3:00 p.m.



**TELL YOUR EMPLOYEES ABOUT  
THEIR CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP!**

A recent attendee to the Chamber Annual Meeting wanted to know how he could become involved in the Chamber. Wow, what an opportunity for your business, your employee and the Chamber organization! Are YOU letting your employees know they are a member? Do you distribute the Chamber Fast Friday and Chamber Newsletter to ALL your employees? Your employees may send an email to [info@wabashchamber.org](mailto:info@wabashchamber.org) to be part of our mailing list or to let us know of their interest in participating on a committee or utilizing their leadership skills on the Chamber or YPN board. By visiting our website they will find information on our programs and ways to be involved through various committees. Encourage them to use their Member2Member Discount Cards at local businesses. Remind them to buy Chamber GiftChecks when they are looking for that perfect gift. **REMEMBER, WHEN YOUR BUSINESS INVESTS IN THE WABASH COUNTY CHAMBER, ALL OF YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE MEMBERS, TOO!** Feel free to copy and paste this article into your emails to your employee network. Don't have an intranet? Then utilize the attached flyer to make copies and insert into employee paychecks. Whatever your communication method, **please let YOUR EMPLOYEES KNOW THEY ARE CHAMBER MEMBERS AND HAVE FULL USE OF ALL OUR PROGRAMS!**



**LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES FROM THE INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

AREA	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	RATE	Seasonally Adjusted RATE
U.S.					
September 2009	153,617,000	139,079,000	14,538,000	9.5	9.8
August 2009 (Revised)	154,897,000	140,074,000	14,823,000	9.6	9.7
September 2008 (Benchmark)	154,509,000	145,310,000	9,199,000	6.0	6.2
INDIANA					
September 2009	3,138,958	2,851,238	287,720	9.2	9.6
August 2009 (Revised)	3,156,275	2,849,085	307,190	9.7	9.9
September 2008 (Benchmark)	3,226,796	3,039,454	187,342	5.8	6.1
WABASH					
September 2009	15,084	13,902	1,902	12.0	
August 2009 (Revised)	15,920	13,875	2,045	12.8	
September 2008 (Benchmark)	17,166	15,942	1,244	7.1	

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Rabb/Kinetico Water Systems**, 4124 Cartwright Drive, Kokomo, IN 46902 Phone: 765.447.9626  
Email: [tstevens@rabbkinetico.com](mailto:tstevens@rabbkinetico.com) URL: [www.rabbkinetico.com](http://www.rabbkinetico.com) Contact: Todd Stevens.  
Rental and sales of softeners, drinking systems, and filters, plus salt and bottled water sales and delivery.

## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO RENEWED THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN OCTOBER

Baker Insurance  
Border Patrol Curbscaping  
Bulldog Battery Corporation  
Christ United Methodist Church  
Cintas  
Crystal Glass  
David L. Mann, CLU, CFP, CHFC  
Douglas C. Lehman, PC  
Edward Jones – Steve Weir Office  
Family Optometry  
Goodfellas Pizza  
Harvey Industries  
Indiana Army National Guard  
Integrity Builders  
John Gilpin, DVM

Kitchens Plus  
Kreole Kid  
Landmark Management  
LIFE Center  
Miami-Wabash Paper  
Midwest Modular Homes  
Milliner Printing  
Modoc's Market  
Poole's Meat Market  
Representative William Ruppel  
Reynolds Oil  
Richvalley Lions Club  
Wabash Appliance & Electronics  
Wabash Marketplace, Inc.



### ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

includes **PHOTOS WITH SANTA AT MODOCS**

Event Sponsored by **First Farmers Bank & Trust,**  
**City of Wabash & Modocs Market**

Mark your calendars now for the annual Celebration of Light on the Wabash County Courthouse lawn. Be a part of this special celebration that kicks off the holiday season for Wabash County. Jennifer McConahay will emcee the event which includes the reflective Message of Light, and Christmas Carol singing led by the Flannery Family. Mayor Robert Vanlandingham will lead off the event with County and City officials "passing the light" to attendees during the candle lighting ceremony. Children will also be delighted with the arrival of Santa via fire truck. He will be passing out candy canes and children and adults may visit and have photos taken with Santa at Modoc's Market immediately following the ceremony.



*Greg Ness and Nancy Butgereit show off the Blue Ribbon Business sign.*

## NOVEMBER BLUE RIBBON BUSINESS OF THE MONTH MORSCHES BUILDERS MART



This month's featured business is located on the south side of Wabash, at 2061 S. Wabash St. Builder's Mart features a complete line of building materials for all of your home and business building needs, carrying such quality brands as Andersen, Atrium, Trex Decking, Azek Trimboards, Masonite, Larson and Merillat products. Manager Greg Ness invites you to come and check out the store's offerings which include windows, lumber, and pipe and hardware as their friendly staff are ready to assist you with your next project needs.

The Wabash Builders Mart is owned by Paul Morsches, Jr., and Franz Morsches and in addition to Mr. Ness employs 11 full-time and one part-time staff including Assistant Manager Bill Hamilton. The store is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. and on Saturday from 7 a.m. until Noon. For more information telephone 260.563.4106 or check out their website at [www.morschesbuildersmart.com](http://www.morschesbuildersmart.com).



## 2010 CHAMBER CALENDARS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

**One County – Countless Expressions** is the theme of this year's Wabash Community Calendar. A joint project of the Wabash Plain Dealer and the Chamber Public Relations Committee, the calendars are scheduled for distribution the first week in November. Plain Dealer representatives will distribute the 5,000 beautiful, full-color calendars among all member financial institutions, the North Manchester and Wabash County Chamber offices, the Wabash County Convention & Visitors Bureau, and complimentary copies that go to all advertisers. There will also be copies held back for use in attraction and relocation packets.

Each page features full-color photos of local landmarks, events, and people. Chamber and Community Events are also noted on each month's calendar page. A directory lists frequently dialed telephone numbers, tourism and cultural attractions, arts and entertainment, and the advertisers' index.

Photos were provided by area photography enthusiasts who shared their treasures with us. We wanted to showcase the diversity of our county residents' interests and the beauty of our local world through its people as well as our natural resources. Contributors included: Becky Bowman, Kathy Glover, Jim Stanton, Ford Meter Box, Wabash Plain Dealer, Richard Halderman, Teri Christman, Wabash Chamber, Michael Barnett, Margie Dodds, Wesley Cole, and Bob Beauchamp.

## ANNUAL MEETING RECOGNIZES MANY FOR THEIR EFFORTS

Over 350 attendees joined your Chamber leadership for its annual report to the membership and celebration of our members. Emcee Skip Daughtry kept the evening flowing as Bruce Ingraham (Beacon Credit Union) was named 2009's Distinguished Citizen, and Kimberly Pinkerton presented the President's Choice Award for Outstanding Volunteerism to Brian Campbell of Randall Miller and Associates. The Wabash County YMCA was presented the Business of the Year Award by outgoing Chamber Chair Trisha Metzger, and the audience enjoyed a brief video about the YMCA facility, it's people and its mission. Ms. Metzger then passed the 2010 gavel of leadership to Incoming Chair Rob Pearson of Wabash County REMC. Attendees also enjoyed the humorous inspiration of nationally recognized speaker Linda Mirante.



The theme of the evening was "When things get tough...the Chamber steps up." Ms. Pinkerton spoke of the many volunteers it takes to have a successful chamber organization and thanked them for stepping up in last year's difficult economy to assist in carrying out a successful program of work. That theme was carried on through Ms. Metzger's comments which thanked the members for recognizing that this was a time join together and strengthen each other by continuing their investment in Wabash County.

Mr. Pearson rounded that out by adding that Wabash County has a strong tradition of pulling together to make great things happen, and only by standing together in difficult times will we be able to continue growing our community.

To see more pictures from the evening visit the Chamber web site [www.wabashchamber.org](http://www.wabashchamber.org).



## CHAMBER ANNUAL REPORTS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

We're sorry if you missed this year's Annual Meeting, where the first round of the Chamber 2009 Annual Reports were distributed. However, you may log on to [www.wabashchamber.org](http://www.wabashchamber.org) to see the digital version. In an effort to save the organization postage costs, we have posted the report online in full color for ease of access by all those who would like to read about the many committees and notable programs your chamber carried out over the past year. The report includes articles from the incoming and outgoing chairs, your president, and committee chairs. Pictures from events, the past Business of the Year and 2008 Distinguished Citizen are shown, as well. Lists of Past Distinguished Citizens, Past (Elected) Presidents/Chairs, a complete 2009 member directory, and the 2009 financial report are also included. This is a good summary of your Chamber year, with wonderful cover design by *the paper of wabash county, inc.* A limited number of hard copies are available in the Chamber office.

## MEMBERSHIP UPCOMING EVENTS

By

Chasity Milliner, Membership Services Coordinator

Thank you for your support of our networking events. These events are well attended each month and sponsors are booked well in advance. Just remember — if you have something special to promote, call us at least six months in advance to reserve your sponsorship spot.

**Legislative Preview** - November 5, 2009, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. This event is co-hosted by the Wabash County Chamber of Commerce and Peabody Retirement Community and will be held in the Enrichment Center at Peabody, 400 West 7th Street, North Manchester. Senator Gary "Doc" Dillon, Senator Randy Head, and Representative William Ruppel have been invited to attend. They will make a short presentation and be available for questions. There is no fee to attend but reservations are requested. To register call 260.563.1168 or 260.982.8616 ext. 1533 or email [info@wabashchamber.org](mailto:info@wabashchamber.org).

Counselors from the **Small Business Development Center** visit Wabash four days each month to offer services to our local business people. If you are interested in a new business start-up, new product development, creating or updating a business plan, or just want to review how your business is doing, these counselors are here to help you. The counselors work out of the Chamber offices and these services are FREE. Ken McCrory is available by appointment on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, Scott Goskowics will be hosting a "Launching your Business" seminar for those interested in getting started in business. It is held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A \$25 fee is required. Call the Chamber to make appointments for counseling or to register for classes, 260-563-1168.

**Lunch Bytes Seminar Series** - November 12, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. **Jennifer McCuan, Midwest Eye Consultants** will be speaking on *PowerPoint - Adding the WOW Effects*. This month's seminar is sponsored by **Bulldog Battery Corporation**. Wow your audience with sound, video, color and animation for your PowerPoint presentations. Come and learn how you can set your professional presentations apart from others.,

## BUSINESS BEFORE HOURS



The next **Business Before Hours** will be December 9, 7:00 a.m., at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. Business Sponsors are

- Youth Service Bureau
- Special Olympics
- Bowman's Candy
- Investment Center @ Crossroads Bank
- Make It Your Own Art Studio

The emcee will be **Dana Brady, White's Residential & Family Services**.

To make reservations call the Chamber office at 260.563.1168, email [beth@wabashchamber.org](mailto:beth@wabashchamber.org) or visit our web site at [www.wabashchamber.org](http://www.wabashchamber.org).

## DON'T MISS THIS GREAT NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY!!

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

The next Business After Hours is scheduled for November 17, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The sponsor will be **Big R** located at 1550 North Cass Street. Don't miss this opportunity to visit this great addition to our retail community and see everything they have to offer.

This is a great time to start your holiday shopping.



Business After Hours has been a very popular event. Those businesses who have sponsored a BAH have been very pleased with the number of visitors to their facilities. If you would like to sponsor a BAH, please call the Chamber office, 260.563.1168. We are now booking for 2011.

## BOARD MEMBERS

2009-2010

Rob Pearson, Chair  
Wabash County REMC  
Mark Sapusek, Chair Elect  
Visionary Web/Computers  
Marilyn Custer-Mitchell, Vice Chair  
Wabash County Hospital  
Doug Mays, Treasurer  
Thermafiber  
Brian Campbell  
Randall Miller & Associates  
Trisha Metzger, Past Chair  
Crossroads Bank  
Kimberly Pinkerton, President  
Chamber of Commerce

Skip Daughtry  
Beauchamp & McSpadden  
Chris Goff  
Judge, Superior Court  
Phil Brown  
Alumitech  
Angie Beauchamp  
Modoc's Market  
Larry Hoover  
Quality Electric  
Lindsay Barnett  
Midwest Eye Consultants  
Matt Mize  
Attorney  
Brad Thurmond  
Ivy Tech Community College  
Deborah VanMeter  
Huntington University  
Lance Agness  
Ford Meter Box Company  
Steffany Pegg  
Wabash County YMCA  
Jeremy Steele  
First Merchants Bank  
Kristi Lundquist  
Lundquist Appraisals  
Darin Hadley  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Bill Konyha  
EDG Wabash County  
Mayor Robert Vanlandingham  
City of Wabash  
Dan Hannaford  
Town of North Manchester

## Upcoming Events



November 5	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.	Legislative Preview Peabody Retirement Community
November 6	11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	HHIC Annual Meeting Honeywell Center
November 12	12:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Bytes Seminar Chamber office
November 17	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Business After Hours Big R
November 26 & 27		Office Closed - Thanksgiving
December 9	7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	Business Before Hours Honeywell Center
December 24-31		Office Closed

# GOLD MEMBERS

We thank and salute those member businesses who carry GOLD LEVEL status:

**Beacon Credit Union**  
**Pettit Printing, Inc.**  
**Crossroads Bank**  
**Charley Creek Foundation**  
**Bulldog Battery**  
**Wells Fargo Bank**  
**Miller's Merry Manor**  
**First Merchants Bank**  
**Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.**  
**First Farmers Bank & Trust**  
**Physicians Health Plan of Northern Indiana, Inc.**  
**Dr. James Ford Historic Home**  
**Indiana American Water Company**  
**Mutual Bank**  
**Duke Energy**  
**Visionary Web**



**Any Wabash County Chamber Member can elevate their membership status to Gold Level by investing an additional \$500 above their regular membership investment. In addition to having their company acknowledged at Chamber events and in publications, Gold Level Members receive \$100 in Chamber Bucks and receive a free large rotating banner ad on the Chamber website.**



## **DISCOUNT RIDER PASS AND HOLIDAY TRANSIT BUS AVAILABLE**

**The Wabash County Public Transit is offering a Discounted Rider Pass.** Riders may now buy a ticket with 25 punches for \$20.00, giving the rider five free punches. The county-wide public transit system will continue to sell \$10.00 passes with 10 punches. The discount passes cannot be purchased by agencies for a third party.

Rides are offered to all Wabash County residents regardless of age. Rides are available Monday – Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you are 59 and under, the fare is \$2.00/two punches per one-way trip in the city limits of North Manchester and Wabash. The one-way fare anywhere else in the county is \$ 4.00/four punches. Fares must be paid as the rider steps onto the bus. Riders must have the exact change or a pre-paid bus pass. Drivers do not carry cash and cannot make change.

Call Wabash County Public Transit for more information, to purchase a pass or to schedule a ride at 260-563-7536; 1-888-498-4400; or TDY (hearing impaired) 1-800-743-3333.

**Santa and Wabash County Transit are working together this holiday season in Wabash.** Ride free in Wabash on the WCT holiday bus on the first three December Saturdays, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Let the WCT holiday buses do the driving while you shop and enjoy the holiday season in Wabash.

Wabash County Transit will have two holiday buses. The Holiday Saturday bus service will operate continuously from Bechtol's Grocery on the south side of Wabash to Big R at the North end of Wabash with stops at merchants, restaurants and services along the way.

Riders can get on the bus at local merchants and service providers along the route. In addition, WCT can still provide door to door service, picking up a rider at their home at a pre-arranged time. This enables residents away from the main route or someone needing assistance to have access to the rides. For door to door service on the WCT Holiday Bus, reserve a ride by 5:00 pm on the Friday before the Saturday ride.

The WCT Holiday Bus will operate from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM on the first three Saturdays of December. To return home, riders can get back on the bus where they were dropped off to go home with packages or to continue shopping. You can ride the WCT Holiday Bus as often as you want to.

Wabash County Transit provides rides for all ages within Wabash County and is operated by Wabash County Council on Aging, a Wabash County United Fund agency. For more information about Wabash County Transit call 260 563-7536



## ATTENTION ALL EMPLOYEES

**WE** are a member of the Wabash County Chamber of Commerce

**SO**

**YOU** are a member of the Weabash County Chamber of Comemrce

The Chamber welcomes **YOUR** participation in activites, events, and on committees.

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Wabash County Chamber of Commerce  
presents



# NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY = DON'T MISS

## Business After Hours



### Big R

1550 North Cass Street  
Wabash

November 17, 2009  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



**Check out this  
great Wabash  
business!**

- u Great Networking Opportunity
- u Refreshments
- u Demonstrations
- u No Charge

To make your reservation contact the Chamber at 260.563.1168,  
Fax: 260.563.6920 or email [info@wabashchamber.org](mailto:info@wabashchamber.org)

**Reservations Requested**